

## Van Buren County Board of Commissioners December 13, 2016

### Regular Meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Administration & Land Services Building

On the above date, the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by RICHARD GODFREY, Chairman of the Board.

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The roll was called by County Clerk TINA LEARY with the following commissioners answering to their name and district: Present: MIKE HENRY, District #1; SUSAN HAMMOND; District #2; RICHARD GODFREY, District #3; RICHARD FREESTONE, District #4; MIKE TOTH, District #5; DONALD A. HANSON, District #6; BETH GRIFFIN, District #7.

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#### **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

Deletions: Finance Item E. Building and Grounds Pole Barn  
Executive Session

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#### **Approval of Consent Agenda (Note Consent Agenda items marked with \*\*)**

All items on the agenda marked with '\*\*' are part of the consent agenda. Commissioners or the public can request that items be removed from the consent agenda. It is noted that the addition of items requiring action at today's meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

MOTION BY HANSON, SECOND BY HAMMOND, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED.

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#### **\*\*Approval of Minutes**

November 8, 2016 Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation  
November 22, 2016 – Regular Meeting

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#### **Public Comment**

NICK CULP, Palisades Manager of Government Affairs, discussed the decision to close the Plant in October, 2018. Specific questions were asked and addressed regarding the hazardous material being stored at the Plant.

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#### **Administrative Affairs**

##### **A. Proclamation – Judge Hentchel**

MOTION BY HENRY, SECOND BY FREESTONE. MOTION CARRIED.

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A23/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, Chief Judge Honorable Robert Hentchel has announced his retirement after serving 20 years in the Van Buren County District Court, and;

WHEREAS, Judge Hentchel worked in the Van Buren County's Prosecutor's Office from July 1978 through March 1985 and then went into private practice in Paw Paw in March 1985 until September 1996, and;

WHEREAS, In 1996 Judge David Grier retired in South Haven and in September 1996 Judge Hentchel was appointed by Governor John Engler as 7<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge to fill the position vacated by Judge Grier. He was Chief District Court Judge for 12 years and the first Recovery Court Judge for Adults and Juveniles in Van Buren County, and;

WHEREAS, Judge Robert Hentchel will be the first District Court Judge to have his portrait hung in the District Courtroom.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank Judge Robert Hentchel for his 20 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Judge Hentchel as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

**B. Proclamation – County Clerk – Tina Leary**

MOTION BY HAMMOND, SECOND BY GRIFFIN. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A24/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, County Clerk Tina Leary is retiring after 33 1/2 years of service with Van Buren County, and;

WHEREAS, Tina was hired on June 13, 1983 as a legal secretary in the Prosecutor's Office and continued in that position until she was elected Van Buren County Clerk Office in November 2004, and;

WHEREAS, Tina was instrumental in implementing the use, the programming and the training of the new electronic voting equipment as soon as she took office along with the digitization of all vital records in the clerk's office

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Van Buren County Clerk Tina brought a sense of enthusiasm and commitment to providing a higher level of services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank County Clerk Tina Leary for her 33 1/2 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish her and her family all the best in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Tina Leary as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

**C. Proclamation – Sheriff – Dale Gribler**

MOTION BY GRIFFIN, SECOND BY HAMMOND. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A25/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, Dale R. Gribler was born in Decatur, Michigan and has been a lifelong resident of Van Buren County, and;

WHEREAS, Dale started his career as a police officer with the Village of Lawrence and was later promoted to Chief of Police for the Village of Lawrence. At that time Dale was the youngest Police Chief in the State of Michigan, and;

WHEREAS, Dale continued in that capacity until he was appointed as Undersheriff under Cal Rosema and began his career on January 1, 1981 with Van Buren County as Undersheriff for the next 16 years, and;

WHEREAS, in November 1996 Dale was elected as Sheriff for Van Buren County after the retirement of Cal Rosema and has continued in that role for the past 19 years ensuring the safety and well-being of the citizens of Van Buren County, and;

WHEREAS, during his term as Sheriff, the Corrections Department received perfect audit awards for 11 years in a row and he was also involved with upgrading technology and medical cost savings for the jail, and;

WHEREAS, Dale has been a leader in 911 state wide and has kept Van Buren County in the cutting edge with 911.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank Sheriff Dale Gribler for his 35 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Sheriff Gribler as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

**D. Resolution – Closing of Palisades Nuclear Plant**

MOTION BY HENRY, SECOND BY FREESTONE. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS RESOLUTION A26/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, the Palisades Nuclear Plant has 600 employees and contributes 7.32% of our local tax dollars in Covert Township, and;

WHEREAS, the Palisades Nuclear Plant generates approximately \$10,000,000 which supports the Covert Schools (\$4,400,000), Covert Township (\$1,800,000), Van Buren County (\$1,677,000), Van Buren Intermediate School District (\$1,400,000), Lake Michigan College (\$400,000), and Van Buren District Library (\$250,000), and;

WHEREAS, Entergy has a contract with Consumers Energy running through the end of 2022, and;

WHEREAS, the County has a vested interest in providing as much time as possible for future fiscal stability of our county and the personal well-being of our hardworking families employed by Entergy, and;

WHEREAS, this decision to close Palisades Nuclear Plant by Entergy threatens Michigan's electrical reliability for many years, and;

WHEREAS, if Entergy and Consumers Energy delay the closing of the plant to 2022, it will allow state and local governmental officials to have the necessary time to craft a plan to address the loss of revenue and jobs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners stands united in asking the Public Service Commission to deny the request of Consumers Energy to terminate their contract with Entergy as October 1, 2018.

**Building and Grounds**

There were no items on the agenda.

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**Finance/Auditing**

**\*\*A. Syndicate Park Contract**

**FINANCE RESOLUTION F117/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, a request has been made for approval to sign a contract with Abonmarche and Cardno for additional services and project summary for Syndicate Park, and;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Syndicate Park Project is to stabilize the dune, and;

WHEREAS, the continued services are permit drawings, construction documents, bidding and construction phase services, and;

WHEREAS, the agreement with Abonmarche in the amount of \$13,690.42 and the agreement with Cardno in the amount of \$65,342.00 are consistent with what was anticipated and within the monies available from the State Grant, contributions from the Conservation District and a small amount from the County to be paid from fund 270-172-818.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the contracts for restoration of activities related to the Syndicate Park Project and authorizes the County Administrator to execute said agreements on their behalf.

**\*\*B. Purchase of Laptops**

**FINANCE RESOLUTION F118/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, a request was made for the approval to purchase 8 new laptops for the County board and County Clerk, and;

WHEREAS, a number of years ago the County purchased laptops for all Board members and the County Clerk, and;

WHEREAS, this improved the staff's ability to effectively communicate with all the County Commissioners as well as their ability to use them at the meeting to have all meeting material readily available, and;

WHEREAS, with the need to supply the new incoming commissioners with a laptop it was decided to just replace all of them because of their age, and;

WHEREAS, the total cost for 8 computers and related software will be \$13,099.20 to be paid from fund 245-900.00-980.001.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of 8 new computers and related software in an amount not to exceed \$13,099.20.

**\*\*C. Budget Amendment – Prosecutor’s Office**

FINANCE RESOLUTION F119/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, the Prosecutor’s Office has received \$110,220.29 for work on forfeiture cases, and;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that by the end of the fiscal year, the county will receive approximately \$150,000 more than originally budgeted, and;

WHEREAS, a budget amendment has been prepared to increase several line items for a total amount of \$115,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment for the Prosecutor’s Drug Enforcement fund 266.0-334.PO as submitted.

**D. Sheriff’s Office – Public Alert Notification System**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY HAMMOND. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE RESOLUTION F120/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, a proposal has been received from Emergency Management to transition our current public alert notification system from Code Red to Rave Alert Mobile Safety, and;

WHEREAS, with the advancement of technology the new proposed system not only meets the E.P.Z. needs and county wide application, we will be able to use the system for such things as employee notification for courthouse closures, and;

WHEREAS, the system is also a subsidiary of the firm that offers our county the Smart 911 programs so all of the current and future subscribers can also register with Rave Alert which would be a tremendous asset to notify our citizens of public safety issues such as weather or a crime spree in a particular geographical area, and;

WHEREAS, the cost for the additional services is established as an \$11,000.00 fixed annual licensing fee plus a \$2,500.00 one-time setup fee to be paid by Palisades.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the proposal from Emergency Management to move from Code Red to Rave Alert Mobile safety, and authorizes Robert Kirk, Emergency management to execute all necessary documents on their behalf.

**E. Building and Grounds – Pole Barn**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

**F. Revised 2016 Apportionment Report**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY FREESTONE. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE RESOLUTION F121/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, it is the statutory duty of the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, under P.A. 87 of the M.C.L.A. 46.1 at its annual session in October of each year to ascertain, determine and apportion such amounts as directed by 211.37 of the General Property Tax Law, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify that the governing body of each taxing jurisdiction has reduced their millage as required in Sec. 24 (e) and Sec. 34 (d), General Property Tax Laws, and Article 9 of the State Constitution of 1963, and;

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners authorize and direct that all 2016 property taxes in Van Buren County be spread as revised due to ballot changes on the November 8, 2016 election as one total sum for each taxing unit.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners does hereby adopt the Van Buren County Tax Report of 2016 and the apportionment and millage of taxes to be spread in accordance with the statute in such case made and provided as evidence by exhibits attached hereto and made a part of.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that statement of the explanation of the Tax Rate for each separate tax in the various units is attached to the Tax receipt in accordance with Sec. 21.39 of the General Property Tax Law.

**G. Resolution Calling A Special Election**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY HENRY. ROLL CALL: HENRY – YES; HAMMOND – YES; GODFREY – YES; FREESTONE – YES; TOTH – YES; HANSON – YES – GRIFFIN. 7 YES, 0 NO. MOTION CARRIED.

**FINANCE RESOLUTION F122/12-13-2016**

A RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE VAN BUREN COUNTY ELECTORS A QUESTION OF WHETHER THE COUNTY MAY LEVY .70 MILL FOR TWENTY (20) YEARS, BEGINNING WITH THE DECEMBER 1, 2017 TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTION OF A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION, A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND SERVICES BUILDING

WHEREAS, the County of Van Buren, Michigan (the "County") has deemed it necessary to construct, operate, furnish and equip a jail addition and renovation, a new court's consolidation facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, to finance such Project it will be necessary to levy a millage of .70 mills for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that it will be necessary to call a special election at which it will submit a millage proposition to County voters for approval of a millage to cover the costs of constructing, furnishing, equipping and operating the new Project; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners wishes to adopt this Resolution to call a special election for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 (the "Special Election") to present the millage proposition to the electors of Van Buren County.

WHEREAS, the County Clerk must publish a Notice of Special Election and a Notice of the last day of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election which must include the final language of the ballot proposition; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to approve calling such Special Election and such ballot proposition and authorize the County Clerk to proceed with the necessary notices therefor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF MICHIGAN, as follows:

1. The County shall submit to the registered electors residing within the boundaries of the County of Van Buren the millage proposition set forth in paragraph 3 below at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.
2. The County Clerk shall cause a Notice of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election to be published as required by law.
3. The Board of Commissioners certifies to the County Clerk the following proposition which shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the County of Van Buren at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017:

*PROPOSAL TO LEVY A MILLAGE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, FURNISH  
AND EQUIP A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION, A NEW COURT'S  
FACILITY AND RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND  
LAND SERVICES BUILDING IN THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN*

*For the purpose of constructing, operating, furnishing and equipping a jail addition and renovation, a new Court's Consolidation Facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building for Van Buren County, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Van Buren, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.70 mills (\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of twenty (20) years (2017-2036) inclusive?*

*If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,030,000.00 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. If approved and levied, in accordance with State law a portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in the Cities of South Haven, Bangor, Gobles, Hartford as well as Keeler Township, South Haven Charter Township and the Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.*

4. The Van Buren County Clerk shall take all actions required by law to call the Special Election on May 2, 2017.
5. The Special Election shall be held in accordance with the General Election Laws of the State of Michigan.
6. The proposition to be voted in the ballot to be used in the Special Election for the purpose of submitting the foregoing proposition to electors shall be substantially in the form set forth in Appendix A.
7. The County Clerk is authorized to take whatever action is necessary under the Election Laws of the State of Michigan to notify electors of the County of Van Buren of the proposition being submitted at the May 2, 2017 Special Election and of the last day of registration therefore. The Clerk shall cause appropriate registration and election notices to be published as required by the State Election Law in The Courier-Leader, Paw Paw, Michigan and the South Haven Daily Tribune, South Haven, Michigan; newspapers of general circulation in the County.

**H. Friend of the Court - Budget Amendment**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY HENRY. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE RESOLUTION F123/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, a request has been made for the approval to revise the budget for the Family Court Budget and the Friend of the Court budget to reflect that the former Friend of the Court salary will be equally split between the Family Court budget and the Friend of the Court budget, and;

WHEREAS, in August of 2015, Lynn Bullard was appointed the Director of the Juvenile/Family Court Division as well as her current position of Friend of the Court, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed budget amendment will allow the allocation of 50% of her wages to fund 292-662-702.00 and 50% to 215-141, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed budget amendment will memorialize the correct allocation of the cost to the respective programs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment as presented.

**I. Prosecutor's Office – New Assistant Prosecutor's Wage**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY HANSON. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE RESOLUTION F124/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, the Prosecutor's Office has hired a new Assistant Prosecutor to replace Mike McKay, and;

WHEREAS, they are requesting approval to start the new hire at a C-1 on the Assistant Prosecutor's pay scale or \$28.64 per hour as opposed to the start range or \$25.26 per hour, and;

WHEREAS, the justification is that the new hire has been a full time Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the last 13 years and comes with lot of experience and will not require any training, and

WHEREAS, this will still be a \$10.00 an hour savings compared to the current salary of Mike McKay.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the request of the Prosecutor to start the new Assistant Prosecuting Attorney at the C-1 pay grade or \$28.64/hour.

**J. Claims**

MOTION BY TOTH, SECOND BY HAMMOND. MOTION CARRIED

CLAIMS RESOLUTION C12/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, claims in the amount of \$1,227,165.74 for November 2016 were submitted and reviewed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves total claims in the amount of \$1,227,165.74.



## **Labor Negotiations and Contracts**

### **A. AFSCME - Union Bargaining Agreement**

MOTION BY HANSON, SECOND BY TOTH. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L03/12-13-2016**

WHEREAS, the Bargaining Unit agreements with AFSCME, Local 2628.04 Circuit Court/FOC, Local 2628.02 Probate Court, Local 2628.03 Seventh District Court, Local 2628.7 Courthouse General and Local 2628.09 Courthouse Supervisory expire December 31, 2016, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2019 to include the following:

1. A three (3) agreement with all bargaining unit employees receiving a 2% increase for calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019.
2. The following position's salary range will be upgraded one level:
  - A. Animal Control Officers – upgrade from 22 to 23
  - B. Maintenance Worker – upgrade from 19 to 20 (revise job description).
  - C. Shop Support Worker – upgrade from 19 to 20 (revise job description).
  - D. Register of Deeds Clerk – upgrade from 19 to 20, retro to 10/1/16.
  - E. MSU Extension – Office Manager - \$.70 per hour increase
3. Bereavement Leave – Permanent part-time employees shall receive pay for a day (prorated to their average work day hours based on a 5- day work week) necessarily lost during their normal scheduled work week not to exceed two (2) consecutive work days to either arrange services, attend services, or settle the estate after the death of a family member of their immediate family. For the purpose of the Article, immediate family shall be defined as an employee's current spouse, parents, stepparents, grandchildren and children of the employee or the employee's current spouse. One (1) work day will be granted for siblings, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, grandparents of the employee or the employee's current spouse or for members of the employee's household.
4. An Employee who does not need health insurance may elect to have the Employer pay the Employee the sum of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) pay period. An employee is not eligible for this opt-out payment if he/she opts out of County-offered health insurance and receives federal assistance to obtain health insurance via an Affordable Care Act exchange. This option shall not be available to Employees who are normally scheduled to work less than thirty (30) hours per week.
5. An employee awarded a position at a higher pay grade (Range) by bid shall be placed on the Unified Pay scale no more than one Step (letter) backward. If that placement does not provide the employee a raise of at least twenty-five cents (\$00.25) per hour, then the employee will be placed at the higher pay grade (Range), but will remain at his/her former Step (letter). In the case of demotion, the employee shall be placed where they will receive the least amount of loss.

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the AFSCME bargaining agreements for the stated units subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contracts, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the AFSCME, Local 2628 Bargaining Units as presented.

**B. Non-Represented and Elected Officials Compensation for 2017**

MOTION BY HANSON, SECOND BY TOTH. MOTION CARRIED.

Labor Negotiations and Contracts Resolution L04/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, there are 17 employees who do not belong to a union and six (6) Elected Officials who are not covered by an employment agreement, and;

WHEREAS, a proposal has been received to increase all Non-Union employee's and Elected Officials compensation as follows:

Wage Increase: 2% for 2017, 2% for 2018, 2% for 2019.

The same Wellness Benefits as AFSCME are currently receiving

Employees shall receive \$150.00 per pay period in lieu of taking the County's Health Insurance plan.

WHEREAS, all employees shall be allowed to select from the three County Board approved Health Insurance Plans. The employee's contribution shall be established by the Michigan Department of Treasury under the hard cap provision.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal for the increase of the Non Represented Employee's and Elected Officials compensation as presented.

**C. Prosecuting Attorney's Legal Secretaries Association - Agreement**

MOTION BY HANSON, SECOND BY TOTH. MOTION CARRIED.

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS RESOLUTION L05/12-13-2016

WHEREAS, the Prosecutor's Legal Secretaries Association contract expires December 31, 2016, and;

WHEREAS, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2019 to include the following:

Wage Increase: 2% for 2017, 2% for 2018, 2% for 2019.

The same Wellness Benefits as AFSCME are currently receiving

Employees shall receive \$150.00 per pay period in lieu of taking the County's Health Insurance plan.

WHEREAS, all employees shall be allowed to select from the three County Board approved Health Insurance Plans. The employee's contribution shall be established by the Michigan Department of Treasury under the hard cap provision.

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association Agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association as presented.

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**Public Comment**

MSUE District Coordinator JULIE PIOCH thanked outgoing commissioners Henry, Hammond and Griffin for their years of service to government and leadership.

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**Board Correspondence**

The following correspondence was presented and placed on file:

- Road Commission Minutes from 11/17/16
- Van Buren/Cass County District Board of Health Minutes from 11/9/16

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**Commissioner Reports and Meetings Attended**

- Building Authority Meeting, Henry summarized meeting and suggested bond counsel be available for all meetings
- Henry made some parting comments as he leaves his tenure on the Board
- Economic Development
- Road Commission
- Public Transit
- Community Action Agency
- Area Agency on Aging Annual Meeting
- Claims
- Labor Negotiations
- Building and Grounds
- Michigan Works
- Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
- Drug Treatment Court
- Southwest Michigan First Economic Development Forum
- Godfrey commented on communications he has had regarding the Palisades Nuclear Plant closure
- POAM did not ratify their labor contract
- Godfrey thanked the three outgoing commissioners for their contributions to the County

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**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

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Richard Godfrey  
Chairman of the Board

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Tina Leary  
County Clerk

**VAN BUREN COUNTY**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
**December 13, 2016**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Administration & Land Services Building**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER
  - \* Pledge of Allegiance
  - \* Invocation
  - \* Roll Call
  
2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
  
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (note Consent items marked with \*\*)
  
4. \*\* APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 11/22/16
  
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
  
6. ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Recommendation/Discussion:**

  - A. Proclamation – Judge Hentchel
  - B. Proclamation – County Clerk – Tina Leary
  - C. Proclamation – Sheriff Dale Gribler
  - D. Resolution – Closing of the Palisades Nuclear Plant
  
7. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

**Recommendation /Discussion:**
  
8. FINANCE/AUDITING COMMITTEE

**Recommendation/Discussion:**

  - \*\* A. Syndicate Park Contract
  - \*\* B. Purchase of Laptops
  - \*\* C. Budget Amendment – Prosecutor’s Office
  - D. Sheriff’s Office – Public Alert Notification System
  - E. Bldgs. & Grnds. – Pole Barn
  - F. Revised 2016 Apportionment Report
  - G. Resolution Calling a Special Election
  - H. Friend of the Court – Budget Amendment
  - I. Prosecutor’s Office – New Asst. Prosecutor’s Wage
  - J. Claims/Auditing
  
9. LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS

**Recommendation/Discussion:**

  - A. AFSCME – Union Bargaining Agreements
  - B. Non-Represented & Elected Officials Compensation for 2017
  - C. Prosecuting Attorney’s Legal Secretaries Association
  
10. PUBLIC COMMENT

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

12. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

13. COMMITTEE/OUT-BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

Commissioner Henry:	Administrative Affairs, Chair
Commissioner Hammond:	
Commissioner Godfrey:	Board Chairman,
Commissioner Freestone:	Buildings & Grounds, Chair
Commissioner Toth:	Finance Chair
Commissioner Hanson:	
Commissioner Griffin :	Board Vice - Chairman

14. ADJOURNMENT

Van Buren County will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at any meeting/hearing upon ten (10) days notice to the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners' Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Van Buren County by writing, Debbie Hall, 219 Paw Paw Street, Ste. 303, Paw Paw, MI 49079, or by calling the Board of Commissioners' Office at (269) 657-8200, option 8 ext. 1271.

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

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HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a request has been made for approval to sign a contract with Abonmarche and Cardno for additional services and project summary for Syndicate Park, and;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Syndicate Park Project is to stabilize the dune, and;

**WHEREAS**, the continued services are permit drawings, construction documents, bidding and construction phase services, and;

**WHEREAS**, the agreement with Abonmarche in the amount of \$13,690.42 and the agreement with Cardno in the amount of \$65,342.00 are consistent with what was anticipated and within the monies available from the State Grant, contributions from the Conservation District and a small amount from the County to be paid from fund 270-172-818.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the contracts for restoration of activities related to the Syndicate Park Project and authorizes the County Administrator to execute said agreements on their behalf.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION □ MOTION □ REPORT OF LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE

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HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Bargaining Unit agreements with AFSCME, Local 2628.04 Circuit Court/FOC, Local 2628.02 Probate Court, Local 2628.03 Seventh District Court, Local 2628.7 Courthouse General and Local 2628.09 Courthouse Supervisory expires December 31, 2016, and;

**WHEREAS**, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2016 to include the following:

1. A three (3) agreement with all bargaining unit employees receiving a 2% increase for calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019.
2. The following position's salary range will be upgraded one level:
  - A. Animal Control Officers – upgrade from 22 to 23
  - B. Maintenance Worker – upgrade from 19 to 20 (revise job description).
  - C. Shop Support Worker – upgrade from 19 to 20 (revise job description).
  - D. Register of Deeds Clerk – upgrade from 19 to 20, retro to 10/1/16.
  - E. MSU Extension – Office Manager - \$.70 per hour increase
3. Bereavement Leave – Permanent part-time employees shall receive pay for a day (prorated to their average work day hours based on a 5- day work week) necessarily lost during their normal scheduled work week not to exceed two (2) consecutive work days to either arrange services, attend services, or settle the estate after the death of a family member of their immediate family. For the purpose of the Article, immediate family shall be defined as an employee's current spouse, parents, stepparents, grandchildren and children of the employee or the employee's current spouse. One (1) work day will be granted for siblings, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, grandparents of the employee or the employee's current spouse or for members of the employee's household.
4. An Employee who does not need health insurance may elect to have the Employer pay the Employee the sum of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) pay period. An employee is not eligible for this opt-out payment if he/she opts out of County-offered health insurance and receives federal assistance to obtain health insurance via an Affordable Care Act exchange. This option shall not be available to Employees who are normally scheduled to work less than thirty (30) hours per week.
5. An employee awarded a position at a higher pay grade (Range) by bid shall be placed on the Unified Pay scale no more than one Step (letter) backward. If that placement does not provide the employee a raise of at least twenty-five cent (\$00.25) per hour, then the employee will be placed at the higher pay grade (Range), but will remain at his/her former Step (letter). In the case of demotion, the employee shall be placed where they will receive the least amount of loss.

**WHEREAS**, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the AFSCME bargaining agreements for the stated units subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the contracts, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the AFSCME, Local 2628 Bargaining Units as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: December 13, 2016

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**FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY**

MOTION BY:  
SECONDED BY:

CARRIED   
NOT CARRIED





# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS** COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, Chief Judge Honorable Robert Hentchel has announced his retirement after serving 20 years in the Van Buren County District Court, and;

**WHEREAS**, Judge Hentchel worked in the Van Buren County's Prosecutor's Office from July 1978 through March 1985 and then went into private practice in Paw Paw in March 1985 until September 1996, and;

**WHEREAS**, In 1996 Judge David Grier retired in South Haven and in September 1996 Judge Hentchel was appointed by Governor John Engler as 7<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge to fill the position vacated by Judge Grier. He was Chief District Court Judge for 12 years and the first Recovery Court Judge for Adults and Juveniles in Van Buren County, and;

**WHEREAS**, Judge Robert Hentchel will be the first District Court Judge to have his portrait hung in the District Courtroom.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank Judge Robert Hentchel for his 20 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Judge Hentchel as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, there are 17 employees who do not belong to a union and six (6) Elected Officials who are not covered by an employment agreement, and;

**WHEREAS**, a proposal has been received to increase all Non-Union employee's and Elected Officials compensation as follows:

**Wage Increase:** 2% for 2017, 2% for 2018, 2% for 2019.

The same Wellness Benefits as AFSCME are currently receiving

Employees shall receive \$150.00 per pay period in lieu of taking the County's Health Insurance plan.

**WHEREAS**, all employees shall be allowed to select from the three County Board approved Health Insurance Plans. The employee's contribution shall be established by the Michigan Department of Treasury under the hard cap provision.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal for the increase of the Non Represented Employee's and Elected Officials compensation as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS** COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, County Clerk Tina Leary is retiring after 33 years of service with Van Buren County, and;

**WHEREAS**, Tina was hired on June 13, 1983 as a legal secretary in the Prosecutor's Office and continued in that position until she was elected Van Buren County Clerk in November 2004, and;

**WHEREAS**, Tina was instrumental in implementing the use, the programming and the training of the new electronic voting equipment as soon as she took office along with the digitization of all vital records in the clerk's office

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure as Van Buren County Clerk Tina brought a sense of enthusiasm and commitment to providing a higher level of services.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank County Clerk Tina Leary for her 33 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish her and her family all the best in the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Tina Leary as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a request was made for the approval to purchase 8 new laptops for the County board and County Clerk, and;

**WHEREAS**, a number of years ago the County purchased laptops for all Board members and the County Clerk, and;

**WHEREAS**, this improved the staff's ability to effectively communicate with all the County Commissioners as well as their ability to use them at the meeting to have all meeting material readily available, and;

**WHEREAS**, with the need to supply the new incoming commissioners with a laptop it was decided to just replace all of them because of their age, and;

**WHEREAS**, the total cost for 8 computers and related software will be \$13,099.20 to be paid from fund 245-900.00-980.001.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the purchase of 8 new computers and related software in an amount not to exceed \$13,099.20.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Prosecutor's Office has received \$110,220.29 for work on forfeiture cases, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that by the end of the fiscal year, the county will receive approximately \$150,000 more than originally budgeted, and;

**WHEREAS**, a budget amendment has been prepared to increase several line items for a total amount of \$115,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment for the Prosecutor's Drug Enforcement fund 266.0-334.PO as submitted.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Prosecutor's Legal Secretaries Association contract expires December 31, 2016, and;

**WHEREAS**, a tentative agreement has been reached for a three-year (3) agreement to expire December 31, 2019 to include the following:

**Wage Increase:** 2% for 2017, 2% for 2018, 2% for 2019.

The same Wellness Benefits as AFSCME are currently receiving

Employees shall receive \$150.00 per pay period in lieu of taking the County's Health Insurance plan.

**WHEREAS**, all employees shall be allowed to select from the three County Board approved Health Insurance Plans. The employee's contribution shall be established by the Michigan Department of Treasury under the hard cap provision.

**WHEREAS**, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association Agreement subject to review by personnel and labor counsel for any typographical and clerical omissions from the agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Board Chairman to execute the bargaining agreement with the Prosecuting Legal Secretaries Association as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Prosecutor's Office has received \$110,220.29 for work on forfeiture cases, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that by the end of the fiscal year, the county will receive approximately \$150,000 more than originally budgeted, and;

**WHEREAS**, a budget amendment has been prepared to increase several line items for a total amount of \$115,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment for the Prosecutor's Drug Enforcement fund 266.0-334.PO as submitted.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED



## Van Buren County Budget Amendment Form

Fund: Prosecutor Drug Enforcement

Amendment Number: 2017-3

Date: 11/14/2016

Year End 9/30/2017

Department	Account Number	Account Name	Original Budget	Increase/ Decrease	Budget After Amendment
Prosecutor	266.0-334.PO-661.000	Property Forfeitures	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
	266.0-334.PO-980.000	Office Equipment	16,000.00	8,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
	266.0-334.PO-818.000	Contract Service	12,000.00	3,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	266.0-334.PO-860.000	Travel	11,000.00	4,000.00	\$ 15,000.00

**Reason:** Increase budget for vehicle approved at 09/27/16 BOC meeting

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, Dale R. Gribler was born in Decatur, MI and has been a lifelong resident of Van Buren County, and;

**WHEREAS**, Dale started his career as a police officer with the Village of Lawrence and was later promoted to Chief of Police for the Village of Lawrence. At that time Dale was the youngest Police Chief in the State of Michigan, and;

**WHEREAS**, Dale continued in that capacity until he was appointed as Undersheriff under Cal Rosema and began his career on January 1, 1981 with Van Buren County as Undersheriff for the next 16 years, and;

**WHEREAS**, in November 1996 Dale was elected as Sheriff for Van Buren County after the retirement of Cal Rosema and has continued in that role for the past 19 years ensuring the safety and well- being of the citizens of Van Buren County, and;

**WHEREAS**, during his term as Sheriff, the Corrections Department received perfect audit awards for 11 years in a row and he was also involved with upgrading technology and medical cost savings for the jail, and;

**WHEREAS**, Dale has been a leader in 911 state wide and has kept Van Buren County in the cutting edge with 911.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners recognize and thank Sheriff Dale Gribler for his 35 years of service to Van Buren County as a dedicated, caring and well respected person and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy be presented to Sheriff Gribler as an expression of the high regard held by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF **ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS** COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Palisades Nuclear Plant has 600 employees and contributes 7.32% of our local tax dollars in Covert Township, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Palisades Nuclear Plant generates approximately \$10,000,000 which supports the Covert Schools (\$4,400,000), Covert Township (1,800,000), Van Buren County (\$1,677,000), Van Buren Intermediate School District (\$1,400,000), Lake Michigan College (\$400,000), and Van Buren District Library (\$250,000), and;

**WHEREAS**, Entergy has a contract with Consumers Energy running through the end of 2022, and;

**WHEREAS**, the County has a vested interest in providing as much time as possible for future fiscal stability of our county and the personal well-being of our hardworking families employed by Entergy, and;

**WHEREAS**, this decision to close Palisades Nuclear Plant by Entergy threatens Michigan's electrical reliability for many years, and;

**WHEREAS**, if Entergy and Consumers Energy delay the closing of the plant to 2022, it will allow state and local governmental officials to have the necessary time to craft a plan to address the loss of revenue and jobs.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners stands united in asking the Public Service Commission to deny the request of Consumers Energy to terminate their contract with Entergy as October 1, 2018.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a proposal has been received from Emergency Management to transition our current public alert notification system from Code Red to Rave Alert Mobile Safety, and;

**WHEREAS**, with the advancement of technology the new proposed system not only meets the E.P.Z. needs and county wide application, we will be able to use the system for such things as employee notification for courthouse closures, and;

**WHEREAS**, the system is also a subsidiary of the firm that offers our county the Smart 911 programs so all of the current and future subscribers can also register with Rave Alert which would be a tremendous asset to notify our citizens of public safety issues such as weather or a crime spree in a particular geographical area, and;

**WHEREAS**, the cost for the additional services is established as an \$11,000.00 fixed annual licensing fee plus a \$2,500.00 one-time setup fee to be paid by Palisades.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the proposal from Emergency Management to move from Code Red to Rave Alert Mobile safety, and authorizes Robert Kirk, Emergency management to execute all necessary documents on their behalf.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a request has been made for the approval to award the contract for a new pole barn on Hazen Street to Robert Sefcik for the construction of a 64 ft. x 32 ft. pole barn in an amount not to exceed \$39,958.00 to be paid from fund 245-900-975.00, and;

**WHEREAS**, the original dimension for the proposed barn was 32 x 48 in the amount of \$29,958.00 but the Drain Commission inquired about utilizing a portion of the new pole barn, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Drain Commission is willing to contribute \$10,000 for the additional amount for use of the new pole barn for their equipment.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the award of the contract for the construction of a 64 ft. x 32 ft. pole barn to Robert Sefcik in an amount not to exceed \$39,958.00.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, it is the statutory duty of the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, under P.A. 87 of the M.C.L.A. 46.1 at its annual session in October of each year to ascertain, determine and apportion such amounts as directed by 211.37 of the General Property Tax Law, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify that the governing body of each taxing jurisdiction has reduced their millage as required in Sec. 24 (e) and Sec. 34 (d), General Property Tax Laws, and Article 9 of the State Constitution of 1963, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners authorize and direct that all 2016 property taxes in Van Buren County be spread as revised due to ballot changes on the November 8, 2016 election as one total sum for each taxing unit.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners does hereby adopt the Van Buren County Tax Report of 2016 and the apportionment and millage of taxes to be spread in accordance with the statute in such case made and provided as evidence by exhibits attached hereto and made a part of.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that statement of the explanation of the Tax Rate for each separate tax in the various units is attached to the Tax receipt in accordance with Sec. 21.39 of the General Property Tax Law.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

COUNTY OF VAN BUREN

At \_\_\_\_\_ a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Van Buren \_\_\_\_\_ held in the Building in Paw Paw, \_\_\_\_\_, Michigan, on 2016 at \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ Eastern Time, there were:

PRESENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_

The following preambles and resolution were offered \_\_\_\_\_  
by and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
SUBMITTING TO THE VAN BUREN COUNTY ELECTORS A QUESTION OF  
WHETHER THE COUNTY MAY  
LEVY .70 rtm, Ls FOR TWENTY (20) YEARS, BEGINNING WITH THE  
DECEMBER 1, 2017 TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTION OF A  
JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION, A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION  
FACILITY AND RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND  
SERVICES BUILDING

WHEREAS, the County of Van Buren, Michigan (the "County") has deemed it necessary to construct, operate, furnish and equip a jail addition and renovation, a new court's consolidation facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, to finance such Project it will be necessary to levy a millage of .70 mills for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that it will be necessary to call a special election at which it will submit a millage proposition to County voters for approval of a millage to cover the costs of constructing, furnishing, equipping and operating the new Project; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners wishes to adopt this Resolution to call a special election for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 (the "Special Election") to present the millage proposition to the electors of Van Buren County.

WHEREAS, the County Clerk must publish a Notice of Special Election and a Notice of the last day of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election which must include the final language of the ballot proposition; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to approve calling such Special Election and such ballot proposition and authorize the County Clerk to proceed with the necessary notices therefor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF MICHIGAN, as follows:

1. The County shall submit to the registered electors residing within the boundaries of the County of Van Buren the millage proposition set forth in paragraph 3 below at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.
2. The County Clerk shall cause a Notice of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election to be published as required by law.
3. The Board of Commissioners certifies to the County Clerk the following proposition which shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the County of Van Buren at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017:

PROPOSAL TO LEVY A MILLAGE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, FURNISH AND EQUIP A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION, A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND SERVICES BUILDING IN THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN

For the purpose of constructing, operating, furnishing and equipping a jail addition and renovation, a new Court's Consolidation Facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building for Van Buren County, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Van Buren, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.70 mills (\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of twenty (20) years (2017-2036) inclusive?

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2 030 000.00 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. If approved and levied, in accordance with State law a portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local



Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in the Cities of South Haven, Bangor, Gobles, Hartford as well as Keeler Toxwnship, South Haven Charter Township and the Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.

4. The Van Buren County Clerk shall take all actions required by law to call the Special Election on May 2, 2017.
5. The Special Election shall be held in accordance with the General Election Laws of the State of Michigan.
6. The proposition to be voted in the ballot to be used in the Special Election for the purpose of submitting the foregoing proposition to electors shall be substantially in the form set forth in Appendix A.
7. The County Clerk is authorized to take whatever action is necessary under the Election Laws of the State of Michigan to notify electors of the County of Van Buren of the proposition being submitted at the May 2, 2017 Special Election and of the last day of registration therefore. The Clerk shall cause appropriate registration and election notices to be published as required by the State Election Law in The Courier-Leader, Paw Paw, Michigan and the South Haven Daily Tribune, South Haven, Michigan a newspapers of general circulation in the County.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

YES:

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NO:

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ABSTAIN:

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THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

COUNTY CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the County of Van Buren, hereby certifies that (1) the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County at \_\_\_\_\_ a meeting \_\_\_\_\_ held on

2016, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout, (2) that an original thereof is on file in the records of the County, (3) the meeting was conducted, and public notice thereof was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended), and (4) minutes of such meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Van Buren County Clerk

Las.r6-van10

APPENDIX A

PROPOSAL TO LEVY A MILLAGE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, FURNISH AND  
EQUIP A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION,  
A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND  
RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND  
LAND SERVICES BUILDING IN THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN

For the purpose of constructing, operating, furnishing and equipping a jail addition and renovation, a new Court's Consolidation Facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building for Van Buren County, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Van Buren, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.70 mills (\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of twenty (20) years (2017-2036) inclusive?

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2 030 000.00 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. If approved and levied, in accordance with State law a portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtovm Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment

Authorities established in the Cities of South Haven, Bangor, Gobles, Hartford as well as Keeler Township, South Haven Charter Township and the Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.

YES [ ]

Las.r6-van10

**COUNTY OF VAN BUREN**

At a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Van Buren held in the \_\_\_\_\_ Building in Paw Paw, Michigan, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 at \_\_:\_\_.m. Eastern Time, there were:

PRESENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

The following preambles and resolution were offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_:

**A RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE VAN BUREN COUNTY  
ELECTORS A QUESTION OF WHETHER THE COUNTY MAY  
LEVY .70 MILLS FOR TWENTY (20) YEARS, BEGINNING WITH THE  
DECEMBER 1, 2017 TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSTRUCTION OF A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION,  
A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND  
RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND SERVICES BUILDING**

WHEREAS, the County of Van Buren, Michigan (the "County") has deemed it necessary to construct, operate, furnish and equip a jail addition and renovation, a new court's consolidation facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, to finance such Project it will be necessary to levy a millage of .70 mills for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that it will be necessary to call a special election at which it will submit a millage proposition to County voters for approval of a millage to cover the costs of constructing, furnishing, equipping and operating the new Project; and

WHEREAS, the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners wishes to adopt this Resolution to call a special election for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 (the "Special Election") to present the millage proposition to the electors of Van Buren County.

WHEREAS, the County Clerk must publish a Notice of Special Election and a Notice of the last day of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election which must include the final language of the ballot proposition; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to approve calling such Special Election and such ballot proposition and authorize the County Clerk to proceed with the necessary notices therefor.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF MICHIGAN, as follows:**

1. The County shall submit to the registered electors residing within the boundaries of the County of Van Buren the millage proposition set forth in paragraph 3 below at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.
2. The County Clerk shall cause a Notice of Registration and a Notice of Proposal to be submitted at the Special Election to be published as required by law.
3. The Board of Commissioners certifies to the County Clerk the following proposition which shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the County of Van Buren at the Special Election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017:

**PROPOSAL TO LEVY A MILLAGE  
TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, FURNISH AND EQUIP  
A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION,  
A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND  
RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND  
LAND SERVICES BUILDING IN THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN**

For the purpose of constructing, operating, furnishing and equipping a jail addition and renovation, a new Court's Consolidation Facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building for Van Buren County, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Van Buren, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.70 mills (\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of twenty (20) years (2017-2036) inclusive?

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,030,000.00 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. If approved and levied, in accordance with State law a portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in the Cities of South Haven, Bangor, Gobles, Hartford as well as Keeler Township, South Haven Charter Township and the Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.

4. The Van Buren County Clerk shall take all actions required by law to call the Special Election on May 2, 2017.
5. The Special Election shall be held in accordance with the General Election Laws of the State of Michigan.

6. The proposition to be voted in the ballot to be used in the Special Election for the purpose of submitting the foregoing proposition to electors shall be substantially in the form set forth in Appendix A.
  
7. The County Clerk is authorized to take whatever action is necessary under the Election Laws of the State of Michigan to notify electors of the County of Van Buren of the proposition being submitted at the May 2, 2017 Special Election and of the last day of registration therefore. The Clerk shall cause appropriate registration and election notices to be published as required by the State Election Law in *The Courier-Leader*, Paw Paw, Michigan and the *South Haven Daily Tribune*, South Haven, Michigan a newspapers of general circulation in the County.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

YES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NO: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

**COUNTY CLERK'S CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the County of Van Buren, hereby certifies that (1) the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout, (2) that an original thereof is on file in the records of the County, (3) the meeting was conducted, and public notice thereof was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended), and (4) minutes of such meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Van Buren County Clerk

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**APPENDIX A**

**PROPOSAL TO LEVY A MILLAGE  
TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, FURNISH AND EQUIP  
A JAIL ADDITION AND RENOVATION,  
A NEW COURT'S CONSOLIDATION FACILITY AND  
RENOVATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND  
LAND SERVICES BUILDING IN THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN**

For the purpose of constructing, operating, furnishing and equipping a jail addition and renovation, a new Court's Consolidation Facility and renovation to the Administration and Land Services Building for Van Buren County, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Van Buren, Michigan, be increased by up to 0.70 mills (\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of twenty (20) years (2017-2036) inclusive?

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,030,000.00 in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. If approved and levied, in accordance with State law a portion of the revenue collected may be required to be distributed to the Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities established in the Cities of South Haven, Bangor, Gobles, Hartford as well as Keeler Township, South Haven Charter Township and the Villages of Lawrence, Lawton, Paw Paw and Mattawan.

YES [  ]

NO [  ]

Las.r6-van10

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

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HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a request has been made for the approval to revise the budget for the Family Court Budget and the Friend of the Court budget to reflect that the former Friend of the Court salary will be equally split between the Family Court budget and the Friend of the Court budget, and;

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2015, Lynn Bullard was appointed the Director of the Juvenile/Family Court Division as well as her current position of Friend of the Court, and;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed budget amendment will allow the allocation of 50% of her wages to fund 292-662-702.00 and 50% to 215-141, and;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed budget amendment will memorialize the correct allocation of the cost to the respective programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED



# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, a request has been made for the approval to revise the budget for the Family Court Budget and the Friend of the Court budget to reflect that the former Friend of the Court salary will be equally split between the Family Court budget and the Friend of the Court budget, and;

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2015, Lynn Bullard was appointed the Director of the Juvenile/Family Court Division as well as her current position of Friend of the Court, and;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed budget amendment will allow the allocation of 50% of her wages to fund 292-662-702.00 and 50% to 215-141, and;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed budget amendment will memorialize the correct allocation of the cost to the respective programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the attached budget amendment as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

**VAN BUREN COUNTY  
BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM**

FUND 101 - General No. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: November 30, 2016 Year End: \_\_\_\_\_

Department	Account Number	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Budget After Amendment
Family Court	<del>101-100</del> -702.00 292-6002 -	Supervisor Salary	51,778		51,778

Reason: Director position is being split between two offices, FOC and Family Court

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

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HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, the Prosecutor's Office has hired a new Assistant Prosecutor to replace Mike Makay, and;

**WHEREAS**, they are requesting approval to start the new hire at a C-1 on the Assistant Prosecutor's pay scale or \$28.64 per hour as opposed to the start range or \$25.26 per hour, and;

**WHEREAS**, the justification is that the new hire has been a full time Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the last 13 years and comes with lot of experience and will not require any training, and

**WHEREAS**, this will still be a \$10.00 an hour savings compared to the current salary of Mike Makay.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves the request of the Prosecutor to start the new Assistant Prosecuting Attorney at the C-1 pay grade or \$28.64/hour.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF CLAIMS/AUDITING COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

**WHEREAS**, claims in the amount of \$1,227,165.74 for November 2016 were submitted and reviewed.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approves total claims in the amount of \$1,227,165.74.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: December 13, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

# VAN BUREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION  MOTION  REPORT OF LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE

---

HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**WHEREAS**, the Judges are covered by any collective bargaining unit, and

**WHEREAS**, a proposal has been received to increase all Judges compensation as follows:

The same Wellness Benefits as AFSCME are currently receiving

Employees shall receive \$150.00 per pay period in lieu of taking the County's Health Insurance plan.

**WHEREAS**, all Judges shall be allowed to select from the three County Board approved Health Insurance Plans. The Judge's contribution shall be established by the Michigan Department of Treasury under the hard cap provision.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners approve the proposal for the increase of the Judges compensation as presented.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 27, 2016

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## FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

MOTION BY:

CARRIED

SECONDED BY:

NOT CARRIED

**Whereas, the Palisades Nuclear Plant has 600 employees and contributes 7.32% of our local tax dollars in Covert Township and**

**Whereas, the Palisades Nuclear Plant generates approximately \$10,000,000 which supports the Covert Schools (\$4,400,000), Covert Township (1,800,000), Van Buren County (\$1,677,000), Van Buren Intermediate School District (\$1,400,000), Lake Michigan College (\$400,000), and Van Buren District Library (\$250,000) and**

**Whereas Entergy has a contract with Consumers Energy running through the end of 2022; and**

**Whereas the County has a vested interest in providing as much time as possible for future fiscal stability of our county and the personal well-being of our hardworking families employed by Entergy and**

**Whereas this decision to close Palisades Nuclear Plant by Entergy threatens Michigan's electrical reliability for many years and**

**Whereas if Entergy and Consumers Energy delay the closing of the plant to 2022, it will allow state and local governmental officials to have the necessary time to craft a plan address the loss of revenue and jobs.**

**Now therefore be it resolved that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners stands united in asking the Public Service Commission to deny the request of Consumers Energy to terminate their contract with Entergy as October 1, 2018.**